

Chapter 45

TRAFFIC*

Art. I.	In General, §§ 45-1—45-35
Art. II.	Operation of Vehicles Generally, §§ 45-36—45-55
Art. III.	Transportation of Hazardous Materials, §§ 45-56—45-70
Art. IV.	Traffic-Control Devices, §§ 45-71—45-90
Art. V.	Speed Regulations, §§ 45-91—45-110
Art. VI.	Stopping, Standing and Parking Generally, §§ 45-111—45-160
Art. VII.	Parking Meters, §§ 45-161—45-200 Div. 1. Generally, §§ 45-161—45-180 Div. 2. Temporary Restriction of Access to Metered Parking, §§ 45-181—45-200
Art. VIII.	Removal and Impoundment of Vehicles, §§ 45-201—45-230
Art. IX.	Parades and Processions, §§ 45-231—45-270 Div. 1. Generally, §§ 45-231—45-250 Div. 2. Funeral Processions, §§ 45-251—45-270
Art. X.	Vehicle Weight Limits, §§ 45-271—45-285
Art. XI.	Accidents, §§ 45-286—45-300
Art. XII.	Bicycles, §§ 45-301—45-335 Div. 1. Generally, §§ 45-301—45-310 Div. 2. Registration, §§ 45-311—45-324 Div. 3. Bicycle Helmets, §§ 45-325—45-335
Art. XIII.	Restricted Access Lanes, §§ 45-336—45-340
Art. XIV.	Booting and Towing Delinquent Vehicles and Other Enforcement Provisions, §§ 45-341—45-360
Art. XV.	Neighborhood Traffic Projects, §§ 45-361—45-379
Art. XVI.	Adjudication of Parking Citations, §§ 45-380—45-400
Art. XVII.	Residential Parking Permits, §§ 45-401—45-450 Div. 1. Generally, §§ 45-401—45-410 Div. 2. Designation of Residential Parking Permit Areas, §§ 45-411—45-429 Div. 3. Permits, §§ 45-430—45-450
Art. XVIII.	Certain Traffic Control Duties, §§ 45-451—45-480 Div. 1. General, §§ 45-451—45-460 Div. 2. Traffic Control Permits, §§ 45-461—45-480
Art. XIX.	Photographic Traffic Monitoring System, §§ 45-481—45-500
Art. XX.	Minimotorbikes, §§ 45-501, 45-502

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 45-1. Short title.

This chapter may be known and cited as the Traffic Ordinance.
(Code 1968, § 46-1)

***Cross references**—Use of flashing lights by ambulances, § 4-11; driving livestock on streets, § 6-9; riding bicycles, motorcycles, etc., in restricted airport areas, § 9-66; motor vehicles at airports generally, § 9-101 et seq.; house moving, § 10-48 et seq.; noisy vehicles, § 30-5; sounding of vehicle horn or signaling device, § 30-8; driving vehicles in parks, § 32-29; use of police academy driving track by private persons, § 34-36; obstructing railroad crossings, § 38-9 et seq.; streets and sidewalks generally, Ch. 40; obstruction of sidewalks with vehicles, § 40-11; moving vehicles that throw or dump mud or clay on streets, § 40-22; street dances, § 40-27; transportation of earth materials on streets and alleys, § 40-168; vehicles for hire, Ch. 46; transportation of waste, § 47-241 et seq.

Sec. 45-2. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Alley. Any street, as herein defined, of 20 feet or less in width having no legal or official name other than "alley."

Animal has the meaning ascribed in Texas Agricultural Code section 141.001 which states an animated being that is not human and has the power of voluntary action.

Authorized emergency vehicle. Vehicles of the fire department (fire patrol), police vehicles, public and private ambulances for which permits have been issued by the state board of health, emergency vehicles of municipal departments or public service corporations as are designated or authorized by the city council, private vehicles operated by volunteer firemen or certified emergency medical services volunteers while answering a fire alarm or responding to a medical emergency, and vehicles operated by blood banks or tissue banks, accredited or approved under the laws of this state or the United States, while making emergency deliveries of blood, drugs or medicines, or organs.

Bicycle. Every device propelled by human power upon which any person may ride, having two tandem wheels either of which is 14 inches or over in diameter.

Blockface shall mean that portion of a block that abuts a street between two intersecting streets.

Bus. Every motor vehicle designed for carrying more than ten passengers and used for the transportation of persons, and every motor vehicle, other than a taxicab, designed and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

Bus zone. The area or space officially set apart within a roadway by appropriate signs or markings for the exclusive use of buses operating under franchise granted by the city, for loading and unloading passengers.

Business district. The territory contiguous to and including a roadway when, within any 600 feet along such roadway, there are buildings in use for business or industrial purposes which occupy 300 feet of frontage on one side or 300 feet collectively on both sides of the roadway.

Central business district. The area beginning at the intersection of the centerline of U.S. 59 and the centerline of I.H. 45; thence in a northeasterly and northerly direction along the

centerline of I.H. 45 to its intersection with the centerline of I.H. 10; thence in an easterly direction along the centerline of I.H. 10 to its intersection with the centerline of U.S. 59; thence in a southwesterly direction along the centerline of U.S. 59 to its intersection with I.H. 45, the point of beginning.

Crosswalk. That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the street measured from the curbs, or in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway. The word "crosswalk" also includes any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surfaces.

Department. The department of public works and engineering.

Director. The director of the department of public works and engineering or his designee.

Driveway. Entrances to and exits from private premises where it is possible to park completely off the street, and which are not open for vehicle traffic except by permission of the owner of such private premises.

Driver. Every person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle.

Esplanade has the meaning ascribed in section 33-101 of this Code.

House trailer. A trailer or semitrailer:

- a. which is designed, constructed and equipped as a dwelling place, living abode or sleeping place (either permanently or temporarily) and is equipped for use as a conveyance on streets and highways; or
- b. whose chassis and exterior shell is designed and constructed for use as a house trailer, as defined in subsection a., but which is used instead permanently or temporarily for the advertising, sales, display or promotion of merchandise or services, or for any other commercial purpose except the transportation of property for hire or the transportation of property for distribution by a private carrier.

TRAFFIC

§ 45-2

Intersection. The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or if none, then the lateral boundary line of the roadways of two streets which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict. Where a street includes two roadways, 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided street by an intersecting street shall be regarded as a separate intersection. In the event such intersecting street also includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of such streets shall be regarded as a separate intersection. The junction of an alley with a street or highway shall not constitute an intersection.

Laned roadway. A roadway which is divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic.

Large vehicle. A "motor vehicle" or a "trailer," as defined herein, that is in excess of eight feet in height at the highest point on the vehicle or trailer or in excess of 30 feet in length. To the extent that any motor vehicle is coupled or otherwise attached to a trailer, then the motor vehicle and trailer shall together be deemed as constituting a single large vehicle if the combined length of the motor vehicle and trailer exceeds 30 feet.

Legal holidays. The term "legal holidays" shall include only such holidays as are officially designated by the city council.

Limited-access or controlled-access highway. Every highway, street or roadway in respect to which owners or occupants of abutting lands and other persons have no legal right of access to or from the same except at such points only and in such manner as may be determined by the public authority having jurisdiction over such highway, street or roadway.

Livestock has the meaning ascribed in Texas Agricultural Code 1.003 means cattle, horses, mules, asses, sheep, goats, and hogs, unless otherwise defined.

Median strip means the dividing area, either landscaped or paved, between opposing highway traffic lanes.

Minor has the meaning ascribed in section 28-17 of this Code.

Motorcycle. Every motor vehicle having a saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, but excluding a tractor.

Motor assisted scooter has the meaning ascribed in Section 551.301 of the Texas Transportation Code, as may be amended from time to time.

Motor vehicle. Every vehicle which is self-propelled and every vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated upon rails.

Neighborhood electric vehicle means a vehicle subject to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 500 (49 C.F.R. Section 571.500).

Official time standard. Whenever certain hours are named herein they shall mean standard time or daylight-saving time as may be in current use in this city.

Official traffic-control devices. All signs, signals, markings, and devices not inconsistent with this chapter placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic.

Owner. A person, other than a lienholder, having the property in or title to a vehicle. The term includes a person entitled to the use and possession of a vehicle subject to a security interest in another person, but excludes a lessee under a lease not intended as security.

Park or parking. The standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading passengers or merchandise except an involuntary stopping of such vehicle by reason of mechanical failure or direction of a policeman.

Pedestrian. Any person afoot.

Pole trailer. Every vehicle without motive power designed to be drawn by another vehicle and attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach, or pole, or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregularly shaped loads such as poles, pipes, or structural members, capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections.

Police officer. Every officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for violations of traffic regulations.

Private road or driveway. Every way or place in private ownership and used for vehicular travel by the owner and those having express or implied permission from the owner but not by other persons.

Residential district. The territory contiguous to and including a street or highway when the property on such street or highway for a distance of 300 feet or more is in the main improved with residences.

Right-of-way. The right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian approaching under such circumstances of direction, speed and proximity as to give rise to danger of collision unless one grants precedence to the other.

Roadway. That portion of a street or highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel. In the event a street or highway includes two or more separate roadways, the term "roadway" shall refer to any such roadway separately but not to all such roadways collectively.

Semi-trailer. Every vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that some part of its weight and that of its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle.

Sidewalk. That portion of a street between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines intended for the use of pedestrians.

Stop. When required, means complete cessation of movement.

Stop, stopping, standing. When prohibited, means any stopping or standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic-control sign or signal.

Street or highway. The entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

Taxi zone. The area or space officially set apart within a roadway by appropriate signs or markings for the exclusive use of taxicabs licensed as such by the city.

Through street, through highway or express street. Every highway or portion thereof on which vehicular traffic is given preferential right-of-way, and at the entrances to which vehicular traffic from intersecting highways is required by law to yield right-of-way to vehicles on such through highway in obedience to a stop sign, yield sign or other official traffic-control device, when such signs or devices are erected as provided by law.

Traffic. Pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, and other conveyances, either singly or together, while using any street or highway for purposes of travel.

Traffic-control signal. Any device, whether manually, electrically, or mechanically operated, by which traffic is alternately directed to stop and to proceed.

Traffic island means a raised area over which vehicles may not pass, placed at a junction of streets or between opposing traffic lanes.

Trailer. Every vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying persons or property and for being

TRAFFIC

§ 45-6

drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that no part of its weight rests upon the towing vehicle.

Transport vehicle for physically handicapped. A motor vehicle regularly operated by or for the transportation of physically handicapped persons and which is so designated by special symbol, tab or other device pursuant to the provisions of article 6675a-5e.1, Texas Revised Civil Statutes Annotated.

Truck or commercial vehicle. Every motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property.

Truck loading zone. The area or space adjacent to the curb, officially set apart by appropriate signs or markings for the exclusive use of commercial vehicles as defined in section 45-126 of this Code during the loading or unloading of freight.

Valet zone. The area or space officially set apart within a roadway by appropriate signs or markings for the use of valet service providers operating under permit issued by the city.

Vehicle. Every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a street or highway, excepting devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

(Code 1968, § 46-2; Ord. No. 80-3073, § 1, 10-22-80; Ord. No. 90-635, § 148, 5-23-90; Ord. No. 91-62, §§ 1, 2, 1-9-91; Ord. No. 93-514, § 102, 5-5-93; Ord. No. 03-703, § 6, 7-30-03; Ord. No. 04-679, § 2, 6-23-04; Ord. No. 05-935, § 2, 8-3-05; Ord. No. 05-1315, § 1, 11-30-05)

Sec. 45-3. Compliance.

It is unlawful and, unless otherwise declared in this chapter with respect to particular offenses, it is a misdemeanor for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required in this chapter.

(Code 1968, § 46-3)

Sec. 45-4. Department of public works and engineering.

The city's former department of traffic and transportation has been merged into the city's

department of public works and engineering. Any reference in this Code or other ordinances or documents of the city to the department of traffic and transportation shall be construed to mean the department of public works and engineering. Similarly, any reference to the director of traffic and transportation or to the director of the traffic and transportation department shall be construed to mean the director of public works and engineering.

(Code 1968, § 46-4; Ord. No. 90-635, § 149, 5-23-90; Ord. No. 93-514, § 103, 5-5-93)

Charter reference—Appointment of heads of administrative departments, Art. VI, § 7a.

Cross reference—Officers and employees generally, § 2-21 et seq.

Sec. 45-5. General powers and duties of traffic engineer.

(a) The director of public works and engineering or such other person as the director may from time to time designate in writing to perform such function shall be the traffic engineer of the city. The traffic engineer shall exercise the powers and duties as provided in this Code and the other traffic ordinances of the city.

(b) The city traffic engineer shall have the responsibility and authority to determine the installation and proper timing and maintenance of traffic-control devices, to conduct engineering analyses of traffic accidents and to devise remedial measures, to conduct engineering investigation of traffic conditions, to plan the operation of traffic on the streets and highways of this city, and to cooperate with other city officials in the development of ways and means to improve traffic conditions, and to carry out the additional powers and duties imposed by ordinances of this city.

(Code 1968, § 46-5; Ord. No. 90-635, § 150, 5-23-90; Ord. No. 93-514, § 104, 5-5-93)

Sec. 45-6. Authority of traffic engineer to make regulations.

(a) The traffic engineer is hereby empowered to make regulations necessary to make effective the provisions of this chapter and other traffic ordinances of the city.

§ 45-6

HOUSTON CODE

(b) The city traffic engineer is hereby empowered to make temporary or experimental traffic regulations to cover emergencies or special conditions. No such temporary or experimental regulations shall remain in effect for more than 90 days; provided however, the traffic engineer shall have no authority to eliminate established school zone speed limits without city council authorization.

(Code 1968, § 46-6; Ord. No. 87-2025, § 1, 12-16-87)

Sec. 45-7. Traffic engineer's regulations, designations, etc., to be recorded and kept on file.

Every regulation, designation, delineation or determination promulgated by the traffic engineer pursuant to the authority granted in this chapter shall, unless otherwise provided herein, be described and recorded, and a true record thereof shall be maintained on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the traffic engineer. The original records may be maintained in the data base of a data processing system, provided that the system has the capability to generate printed copies upon request therefor. Each such record shall constitute public record, and all persons shall be charged with notice of the contents of the same.

(Code 1968, § 46-7; Ord. No. 88-726, § 1, 5-4-88)

Sec. 45-8. Enforcement officers generally.

(a) It shall be the duty of the officers of the police department or such officers as are assigned by the chief of police to enforce all street traffic laws of this city and all of the state vehicle laws applicable to street traffic in this city.

(b) The director may designate personnel employed in the department to enforce those provisions of this chapter dealing with stopping, standing and parking. Upon designation by the director, those persons so designated shall enforce the stopping, standing and parking provisions of this chapter by issuance of a summons or notice to appear in answer to a charge of violation on the official form prescribed by the city for such notices. Such persons shall not have any power of arrest under the authority conferred by this section nor shall they have the authority to order a

vehicle removed or impounded for violation of the stopping, standing and parking provisions of this chapter. Persons designated under this section shall be issued appropriate identification by the director and shall be issued the necessary forms to carry out their duties. Such persons shall account to the police department for all such forms issued.

(Code 1968, § 46-8; Ord. No. 77-1069, § 1, 5-31-77)

Sec. 45-9. Authority of police officers to direct traffic.

Officers of the police department or such officers as are assigned by the chief of police are hereby authorized to direct all traffic by voice, hand, or signal in conformance with this chapter and other traffic laws, provided that, in the event of a fire or other emergency or to expedite traffic or to safeguard pedestrians, officers of the police department may direct traffic as conditions may require notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or other traffic laws.

(Code 1968, § 46-9)

Sec. 45-10. Authority of officers of fire department to direct traffic.

Officers of the fire department, when at the scene of a fire, may direct or assist the police in directing traffic thereat or in the immediate vicinity.

(Code 1968, § 46-10)

Sec. 45-11. Obedience to traffic officers generally.

No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order, direction or signal, visual or audible, of any police officer or officer of the fire department vested by law with authority to direct, control or regulate traffic.

(Code 1968, § 46-11)

Sec. 45-12. Using vehicle for primary purpose of advertising.

No person shall operate or park on any street any vehicle for the primary purpose of advertising

TRAFFIC

§ 45-13

ing, except where such operation or parking is specifically permitted by the terms of some provisions of this Code or other ordinance of the city. (Code 1968, § 46-13)

Sec. 45-13. Pedestrians, bicycles, etc., upon limited or controlled-access highways.

(a) No pedestrian shall go upon, walk along, or cross over any limited-access or controlled-access highway within the corporate limits of the

city, except upon the portions along the outer margins thereof, which are designed for and known as "service roadways."

(c) No person shall drive or operate any wheeled vehicle which is not motor-propelled upon any limited-access or controlled-access highway within the corporate limits of the city, except upon the portions along the outer margins thereof which are designed for and known as "service roadways."

(d) To avoid any doubt, if any doubt might otherwise exist, it is the purpose of the city council by this section to prohibit, within the center or middle portions of limited-access or controlled-access highways which are designed to accommodate through traffic, and to and from which connecting roadways lead to and from the service roadways, any use except for the operation thereupon of motor vehicles.

(e) Any person violating any of the terms of this section shall be guilty of an offense and shall be fined not less than \$25.00 and not more than \$200.00.

(Code 1968, § 46-16)

Charter reference—Penalty for ordinance violation, Art. II, § 12.

Cross references—Assessment of fines against corporations, § 16-76; payment of fines, § 16-78; credit against fines for incarceration, § 35-6 et seq.

Sec. 45-14. Riding on portion of vehicle not intended for passengers.

No person shall ride on any vehicle upon any portion thereof not designed or intended for the use of passengers. This provision shall not apply to an employee engaged in the necessary discharge of a duty, or to persons riding within truck bodies in space intended for merchandise.

(Code 1968, § 46-17)

Sec. 45-15. Boarding or alighting from moving vehicles.

No person shall board or alight from any vehicle while such vehicle is in motion.

(Code 1968, § 46-20)

Sec. 45-16. Use of coasters, toy vehicles and similar devices on roadway.

No person riding in or by means of any coaster, toy vehicle or similar vehicle, shall go upon any roadway, except while crossing such roadway in accordance with the pedestrian crossing regulations. The provisions of this section shall not apply to persons on roller skates.

(Code 1968, § 46-22; Ord. No. 90-1182, § 1, 10-3-90)

Sec. 45-17. Removal of foliage restricting vision.

(a) Whenever the traffic engineer shall find a tree, shrub, hedge, or other natural growth of any sort or description located and growing within the boundaries of any public street in the city, which interferes with the vision of automobile drivers driving upon such street, therefore constituting a traffic hazard, he is authorized and directed to cause the traffic hazard to be abated by trimming or removing any such obstruction. If deemed advisable and without materially increasing the danger to the public, the traffic engineer is authorized to give notice to the owner of the abutting property and afford such owner an opportunity to do the work of abating the hazard himself, but the traffic engineer shall never be compelled to await the owner's action in any case where he shall find that the public safety requires the immediate abatement of the hazard.

(b) The mayor is authorized to detail skilled employees of the park department or other employees of the city to assist the traffic engineer in the actual work of abating and removing such traffic hazards and such employees shall perform the work under the direction and supervision of the traffic engineer.

(Code 1968, § 46-24)

Cross reference—Authority of director of park and recreation relative to trimming of trees, etc., § 32-6.

Sec. 45-18. Operation of neighborhood electric vehicles and motor assisted scooters.

(a) It shall be unlawful for a minor to operate a neighborhood electric vehicle or a motor assisted scooter on any public roadway, street, alley, sidewalk or city park within the city limits.

(b) It shall be unlawful for the parent or guardian of a minor to allow or permit the minor to operate a neighborhood electric vehicle or a motor assisted scooter on any public roadway, street, alley, sidewalk or city park within the city limits.

(c) It is a defense to prosecution under this section if a minor presents evidence of being a qualified individual with a disability pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sections 12131 and 12132).
(Ord. No. 05-935, § 3, 8-3-05)

Sec. 45-19. Application of chapter to drivers of government vehicles.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to the driver of any vehicle owned by or used in the service of the United States government, this state, county or city, and it shall be unlawful for any such driver to violate any of the provisions of this chapter, except as otherwise permitted in this chapter or by state statute.
(Code 1968, § 46-26)

Sec. 45-20. Application of chapter to persons propelling push carts, riding animals, etc.

Every person propelling any push cart or riding an animal upon a roadway, and every person driving any animal-drawn vehicle, shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter applicable to the driver of any vehicle, except those provisions of this chapter which, by their very nature, can have no application.
(Code 1968, § 46-27)

Sec. 45-21. Removing materials from highway.

Any person who drops or permits to be dropped or thrown, upon any street or highway any destructive or injurious material, or other material such as dirt, shell, oil, etc., which would be detrimental to the use or appearance of such street or highway, shall immediately remove the same or cause it to be removed.
(Code 1968, § 46-23(b))

Sec. 45-22. Penalty for violation of chapter.

(a) It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of this chapter except the offenses established in articles VI, VII and XVII. Every person convicted of a misdemeanor for a violation of those provisions of this chapter for which another penalty is not specifically provided shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1.00 nor more than \$200.00; provided however that no penalty shall be greater or less than the penalty for the same offense under the laws of this state.

(b) It is a civil offense for any person to violate any of the provisions of articles VI and XVII of this chapter or of division 1 of article VII of this chapter. The penalty for violation of any of those provisions, for which another fine is not specifically provided by this Code or by state law, shall be a civil fine of not less than \$1.00 nor more than \$200.00.

(c) For violations under this chapter that are of a continuing nature, each day that the violation shall continue shall constitute a separate offense.
(Ord. No. 95-81, § 2, 1-25-95; Ord. No. 01-759, §§ 4, 5, 8-15-01; Ord. No. 04-679, § 3, 6-23-04; Ord. No. 04-799, § 3, 7-28-04)

Secs. 45-23—45-35. Reserved.

**ARTICLE II. OPERATION OF VEHICLES
GENERALLY**

Sec. 45-36. Markers, buttons, or signs indicating course to be travelled in turning at intersections.

(a) The traffic engineer is authorized to place markers, buttons, or signs within or adjacent to intersections indicating the course to be travelled by vehicles turning at such intersections, and such course to be travelled as so indicated may conform to or be other than as prescribed by this article.

(b) When authorized markers, buttons, signs, or other indications are placed within an intersection indicating the course to be travelled by vehicles turning thereat, no driver of a vehicle shall disobey the directions of such indications.
(Code 1968, § 46-48)

**Sec. 45-37. Prohibited turns at intersections;
U-turns.**

(a) The traffic engineer is hereby authorized to determine those intersections at which drivers of vehicles shall not make a right, left, or U-turn, and shall place proper signs at such intersections. The making of such turns may be prohibited between certain hours of any day and permitted at other hours, in which event the same shall be plainly indicated on the signs, or they may be removed when such turns are permitted. Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right or left or U-turn is permitted, no driver of a vehicle shall disobey the directions of any such sign.

(b) The driver of any vehicle shall not turn such vehicle so as to proceed in the opposite direction (U-turn) at any intersection where such turns are prohibited by official signs or markings. The driver of any vehicle shall not so turn a vehicle unless such movement can be made in safety and without interfering with other traffic, and then only where a roadway is crossed or makes intersection with another roadway, or on a divided highway, where an official opening in the physical barrier or dividing section has been established by public authority.

(Code 1968, § 46-49; Ord. No. 99-500, § 1, 5-26-99)

**Sec. 45-38. Turning from or into alley or
private driveway.**

(a) Any vehicle emerging from an alley or private driveway onto a two-way street or turning into an alley or private driveway from a two-way street in a business district shall proceed straight ahead or make a right turn and it shall be unlawful to turn left or into such alley or driveway.

(b) Any vehicle emerging from an alley or private driveway onto a one-way street shall proceed straight ahead or turn only in the direction of the designated flow of traffic on the one-way street being entered.
(Code 1968, § 46-51)

Sec. 45-39. Through streets and stop intersections.

(a) Those streets or parts of streets forming the express street plan as designated by the city traffic engineer are hereby declared to be through or express streets for the purpose of this chapter. Whenever a street is designated and described as a through or express street, the traffic engineer may place and maintain a stop sign on each and every street intersecting such through street or intersecting that portion thereof described and designated as such, unless traffic at any such intersection is controlled at all times by traffic-control signals; provided, however, that at the intersection of two such through streets or at the intersection of a through street and a heavy traffic street not so designated, stop signs shall be erected at the approaches of either or both of such streets as may be determined by the traffic engineer upon the basis of an engineering and traffic study.

(b) The traffic engineer is hereby authorized to determine and designate intersections where a particular hazard exists upon other than through streets and to determine whether vehicles shall stop at one or more entrances to any such stop intersection, and shall erect a stop sign at every such place where a stop is required.
(Code 1968, § 46-56)

Sec. 45-40. Yield intersections.

The traffic engineer is hereby authorized to determine and designate intersections where a particular hazard exists and to determine whether vehicles on one of the intersecting streets shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles on the other street or streets and to erect a "yield right-of-way" sign at every place where such a sign is needed.
(Code 1968, § 46-57)

Sec. 45-41. One-way streets and alleys.

(a) The traffic engineer is hereby authorized to designate streets or portions of streets and alleys upon which vehicles shall proceed and move in one direction only and to designate the direction in which movement is permitted, and to install official signs and markings designating such one-way movement. Upon those streets and parts of streets and in those alleys designated as one-way under the provisions of this subsection, vehicular traffic shall move only in the indicated direction when signs indicating the direction of traffic are erected and maintained at every intersection where movement in the opposite direction is prohibited, and it shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle in violation of such signs so placed in accordance with this subsection.

(b) The traffic engineer is hereby authorized to determine and designate streets, parts of streets, or specific lanes thereon upon which vehicular traffic shall proceed in one direction during one period and the opposite direction during another period of the day and he shall place and maintain appropriate markings, signs, barriers or other devices to give notice thereof. The traffic engineer may erect signs temporarily designating lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular direction, regardless of the centerline of the roadway. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle in violation of such markings, signs, barriers, or other devices so placed in accordance with this subsection.
(Code 1968, § 46-59)

Sec. 45-42. Driving or riding on fresh pavement.

It shall be unlawful for any person to drive any vehicle or ride any horse or other animal upon any portion of the streets in the city that has been freshly paved, unless all barriers or signal lights have been lawfully removed therefrom indicating that such street is ready for travel.
(Code 1968, § 46-69)

Sec. 45-43. Obstructing crosswalks and intersections.

The operator of a vehicle shall not cause the vehicle to enter a street intersection or a marked

pedestrian crosswalk unless there is sufficient space for the operator's vehicle to pass through the intersection or crosswalk without obstructing other vehicular or pedestrian use of and passage through the intersection or crosswalk. The provisions of this section shall apply notwithstanding any traffic control signal indication to proceed into the intersection or crosswalk.
(Ord. No. 00-885, § 1, 10-4-00)

Secs. 45-44—45-55. Reserved.

ARTICLE III. TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Sec. 45-56. "Hazardous materials" defined.

For the purposes of this article "hazardous materials" are defined as including the following:

- (1) *Acids and other corrosive liquids.* Corrosive liquids are those acids, alkaline caustic liquids and other corrosive liquids which, when in contact with living tissue, will cause severe damage of such tissue by chemical action; or in case of leakage, will materially damage or destroy other freight by chemical action; or are liable to cause fire when in contact with organic matter or with certain chemicals.
- (2) *Class "A" poisons.* Class "A" poisons are poisonous gases or liquids of such nature that a very small amount of the gas or vapor of the liquid, mixed with air is dangerous to life. This class includes, not by way of limitation, but by way of example only, the following:
 - a. Bromacetone.
 - b. Cyanogen.
 - c. Cyanogen chloride containing less than 0.9 percent water.
 - d. Diphosgene.
 - e. Ethyldichlorarsine.
 - f. Hydrocyanic acid; provided, however, that diluted solutions of hydrocyanic acid of not exceeding five percent strength are not class "A" poisons.
 - g. Lewisite.
 - h. Methyldichlorarsine.
 - i. Mustard gas.
 - j. Nitrogen peroxide (tetroxide).
 - k. Phenylcarbylamine chloride.
 - l. Phosgene (diphosgene).
 - n. Nitrogen tetroxide-nitric oxide mixtures containing up to 33.2 percent weight nitric oxide.
- (3) *Class "B" poisons.* Class "B" poisons are those substances, liquid or solid (including pastes and semi-solids) other than class "A" poisons, which are known to be so toxic to man as to afford a hazard to health during transportation, or which, in the absence of adequate data on human toxicity, are presumed to be toxic to man.
- (4) *Explosive.* An explosive is defined as any chemical compound, mixture, or device, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion, *i.e.*, with substantially instantaneous release of gas and heat, unless such compound, mixture, or device is otherwise specifically classified.
- (5) *Flammable compressed gas.* A flammable compressed gas is any compressed gas that is so classified by section 173.300 of the Regulations of the Department of Transportation Governing the Transportation of Dangerous Articles in Tank Motor Vehicles, dated September, 1967.
- (6) *Flammable liquid.* A flammable liquid is any liquid which gives off flammable vapors (as determined by flash point from Tagliabue's open-cup tester, as used for test of burning oils) at or below a temperature of 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Pyroforic liquids that become self-igniting when exposed to air are flammable liquids.
- (7) *Flammable solid.* A flammable solid is any solid material, other than one classified as an explosive, which, under conditions incident to transportation, is liable to cause fires through friction, absorption of moisture, spontaneous chemical changes,

retained heat from manufacturing or processing, or which can be ignited readily and when ignited burns so vigorously and persistently as to create a serious transportation hazard; such as, not by way of limitation, but by way of example only, certain metallic hydrides, metallic sodium and potassium, and certain oily fabrics, processed meals, and nitrocellulose product.

- (8) *Non-flammable compressed gas.* A non-flammable compressed gas is any compressed gas which is poisonous to human beings or which has asphyxiating or toxic effect to human beings.
 - (9) *Oxidizing material.* An oxidizing material is a substance such as a chlorate, permanganate, peroxide, nitro carbo nitrate, or a nitrate that yields oxygen readily to stimulate the combustion of organic matter.
 - (10) *Radioactive materials.* Radioactive materials include any nuclear or fissionable material, radioactive or waste that have external radiation requiring critical safety control.
- (Code 1968, § 46-77; Ord. No. 70-280, § 1, 3-4-70)

Sec. 45-57. Transportation upon freeways within boundaries of fire zones 1 and 2.

It shall be unlawful for any truck transporting a cargo of over 100 gallons or over 1,000 pounds of hazardous materials, as herein defined, to travel upon any of the elevated freeways of the city within the boundaries of fire zones 1 and 2 as such boundaries existed on December 1, 1969; provided, however, explosives, as herein defined, shall be strictly prohibited in any quantity, upon such elevated freeways within the boundaries of fire zones 1 and 2, and provided, further, however, the prohibition herein contained shall not apply to trucks operated by the fire department of the city carrying supplies of gasoline or other fuels to the scene of fire alarms.

(Code 1968, § 46-78; Ord. No. 70-280, § 1, 3-4-70)

Sec. 45-58. Transportation on routes encompassed by Loop 610.

(a) No truck transporting hazardous materials shall use any route or be driven on any street within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610-North, West, South and East unless:

- (1) Such truck is being driven to or from a place within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610 where the cargo of such truck is intended to be loaded or unloaded; or
- (2) Such truck is being driven to or from the property of the motor carrier owning such truck or under whose contract the truck is being driven and such property is located within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610; or
- (3) Such truck is being driven to or from a place within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610 designated as a safe haven in accordance with federal law and supporting regulations where such truck is to be parked or was parked for a period of not less than four hours.

Provided, however, trucks transporting hazardous materials may travel on Loop 610-North, West, South and East.

(b) Proof that a truck transporting hazardous materials was within that portion of the city that is encompassed by Loop 610-North, West, South and East shall constitute prima facie evidence of a violation of this section; but the owner or operator of such truck shall have the right to introduce evidence to show that the truck was being driven to or from a place within that portion of the city encompassed by Loop 610 as authorized by subsection (a).

(Code 1968, § 46-79; Ord. No. 76-2098, § 1, 12-7-76)

Secs. 45-59—45-70. Reserved.

ARTICLE IV. TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES*

Sec. 45-71. Conformity with state specifications; uniformity.

All traffic-control signs, signals, and devices shall conform to the manual and specifications approved by the state department of highways and public transportation. All signs and signals required under this chapter for a particular purpose shall, so far as practicable, be uniform as to type and location throughout the city. All traffic-control devices so erected and not inconsistent with the provisions of state law or this chapter shall be official traffic-control devices.

(Code 1968, § 46-81)

Sec. 45-72. General powers and duties of traffic engineer.

The traffic engineer shall place and maintain traffic-control signs, signals, and devices when and as required under this chapter and other traffic ordinances of this city to make effective the provisions of this chapter and such ordinances, and may place and maintain such additional traffic-control devices as he may deem necessary to regulate traffic under the traffic ordinances of this city or under state law, or to guide or warn traffic.

(Code 1968, § 46-82)

*Cross reference—Posting advertising matter on traffic signs, etc., § 28-39.

Sec. 45-73. Designation of crosswalks and safety zones.

The city traffic engineer is hereby authorized:

- (1) To designate and maintain, by appropriate devices, marks, or lines upon the surface of the roadway, crosswalks at intersections where, in his opinion, there is particular danger to pedestrians crossing the roadway, and at such other places as he may deem necessary.
- (2) To establish safety zones of such kind and character and at such places as he may deem necessary.

(Code 1968, § 46-83)

Sec. 45-74. Marking of traffic lanes.

The traffic engineer is hereby authorized to mark traffic lanes upon the roadway of any street or highway where a regular alignment of traffic is necessary.

(Code 1968, § 46-84)

Sec. 45-75. Testing devices.

The traffic engineer may test traffic-control devices under actual conditions of traffic.

(Code 1968, § 46-85)

Sec. 45-76. Unauthorized installation of signs; prima facie evidence that devices were installed by traffic engineer.

It shall be unlawful for any person other than the traffic engineer to install or cause to be installed any sign purporting to direct the use of streets or the activities on the streets of pedestrians or vehicles, and proof in any prosecution that any traffic-control device, sign, signal or marking was actually in place on any street in the city shall constitute prima facie evidence that the same was installed by the traffic engineer pursuant to the authority granted in this chapter.

(Code 1968, § 46-92)

Secs. 45-77—45-90. Reserved.

ARTICLE V. SPEED REGULATIONS*

Sec. 45-91. Maximum limits generally.

(a) No person shall drive a vehicle on any street or highway in the city at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the circumstances then existing. Except when a special hazard exists that requires lower speeds for compliance with subsection (d), the following limits shall be lawful, but any speed in excess of such limits shall be prima facie evidence that the speed is not reasonable or prudent and that it is unlawful:

- (1) Where no other speed limit has been posted with appropriate signs giving notice thereof, thirty (30) miles per hour on any street or highway other than an alley and fifteen (15) miles per hour on an alley within the city limits.
- (2) Seventy (70) miles per hour during the daytime and sixty-five (65) miles per hour during the nighttime for any passenger car on any state or federal numbered highway outside any urban district, including farm and/or ranch-to-market roads, and sixty (60) miles per hour during the daytime and fifty-five (55) miles per hour during the nighttime for any passenger car on all streets or highways outside any urban district.
- (3) Sixty (60) miles per hour for all other vehicles on any streets or highway outside any urban district.
- (4) The speed limits for any bus or other vehicle engaged in the business of transporting passengers for compensation or hire, for any commercial vehicle which is in authorized use as a "Highway Post Office" vehicle furnishing Highway Post Office service in the transportation of the United States mail, and for any light truck, shall be the same as prescribed for passenger cars at the same location.

(b) The above limitations notwithstanding, the following prima facie maximum limits are de-

*Cross reference—Speed limits at airport, § 9-103.

clared, for any streets or highway outside any urban district:

- (1) Forty-five (45) miles per hour for any vehicle towing any house trailer of actual or registered gross weight exceeding four thousand five hundred (4,500) pounds or with an overall length exceeding thirty-two (32) feet, excluding the tow bar.
- (2) Sixty (60) miles per hour in daytime and fifty-five (55) miles per hour during nighttime for any truck, except light trucks, truck tractor, trailer or semi-trailer, or for any vehicle towing any trailer, semi-trailer, another motor vehicle, or any house trailer of actual or registered gross weight less than four thousand five hundred (4,500) pounds and overall length of thirty-two (32) feet or less, excluding the tow bar.
- (3) Fifty (50) miles per hour for any school bus.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) *Daytime* means from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, and "nighttime" means at any other hour.
- (2) *Urban district* means the territory contiguous to and including any highway or street which is built up with structures devoted to business, industry, or dwelling houses, situated at intervals of less than one hundred (100) feet for a distance of one-fourth of a mile or more on either side.
- (3) *Light truck* means any truck with a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity not to exceed two thousand (2,000) pounds and includes those trucks commonly known as pickup trucks, panel delivery trucks and carry-all trucks.
- (4) *Passenger car* means any motor vehicle, except motorcycles and motor-driven cycles, designed for carrying ten (10) passengers or less and used for the transportation of persons.
- (5) *Alley* means a street that:
 - (1) Is not used primarily for through traffic; and

- (2) Gives access to rear entrances of buildings or lots along the street.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, no person shall drive a vehicle on a street at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing. In every event, speed shall be so controlled as may be necessary to avoid colliding with any person, vehicle or other conveyance on or entering the street in compliance with legal requirements and the duty of all persons to use due care.

(e) The driver of every vehicle shall, consistent with the requirements of subsection (d), drive at an appropriate reduced speed when approaching or crossing an intersection or railway grade crossing, when approaching or going around a curve, when approaching a hill crest, when traveling upon any narrow or winding roadway, and when a special hazard exists with respect to pedestrians or other traffic or by reason of weather or street or highway conditions.

(Code 1968, § 46-104; Ord. No. 72-1223, § 1, 7-18-72; Ord. No. 93-1624, §§ 1, 2, 12-22-93)

Sec. 45-92. Maximum limits on specific streets.

The city council may alter the maximum speed limits established by section 45-91 of this Code, on any street or portion thereof within the city in accordance with the provisions of Article 6701d, Section 169, of Vernon's Annotated Civil Statutes. Whenever signs are posted giving notice of the maximum legal speed limit so established for a particular street or portion thereof, it shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate any vehicle at a rate of speed in excess of such limit. (Code 1968, § 46-105)

Sec. 45-93. Speed limits in certain public parks.

(a) The maximum prima facie speed limits shall be as set forth below on and within those certain named and designated streets, drives, roads or public ways, or parts thereof, located in Hermann

Park, MacGregor Park and Memorial Park, in the city limits of the city:

- (1) A maximum speed limit of thirty (30) miles per hour shall apply to and prevail on and within the following named and designated streets, drives, roads or public ways, or parts thereof, located in Hermann Park, MacGregor Park and Memorial Park:

- a. Golf Course Drive from the centerline of Hermann Loop Drive to the centerline of Zoo Circle Drive.
- b. Hermann Loop Drive from the centerline of Fannin to the centerline of North MacGregor.
- c. Hermann Loop Drive from the centerline of Zoo Circle Drive to the centerline of Golf Course Drive.
- d. North MacGregor from the centerline of Alameda to a point approximately one thousand (1,000) feet north of Holcombe.
- e. MacGregor Loop Drive from the centerline of Calhoun to the centerline of South MacGregor Way.
- f. South MacGregor Way from the centerline of Calhoun to the dead end of South MacGregor Way approximately one thousand five hundred (1,500) feet east of South Park.
- g. Memorial Loop Drive from the centerline of Memorial (west intersection) to the centerline of Memorial (east intersection).
- h. North Entrance Drive from the centerline of Washington to the centerline of Memorial Loop Drive.
- i. Outer Belt from the centerline of Fannin to the centerline of Hermann Loop Drive.
- j. South Picnic Drive from the centerline of Memorial south 0.4 mile.

- (2) A speed limit of twenty (20) miles per hour shall apply to and prevail on the following streets or drives, or parts thereof, within Hermann Park:

- a. Zoo Circle Drive from the centerline of Outer Belt to the centerline of Golf Course Drive.

(b) Such maximum speed limits shall be effective in, to and on the respective streets, drives, roads or public ways, or parts thereof, set forth in this section when appropriate signs giving notice thereof shall have been erected by the department.

(Code 1968, § 46-109; Ord. No. 68-433, §§ 1-3, 3-20-68)

Secs. 45-94-45-110. Reserved.

ARTICLE VI. STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING GENERALLY

Sec. 45-111. Parking for certain purposes prohibited.

No person shall park a vehicle upon any roadway for the principal purpose of:

- (1) Displaying such vehicle for sale.
- (2) Washing, greasing, or repairing such vehicle, except repairs necessitated by an emergency.

(Code 1968, § 46-122)

Sec. 45-112. Blocking roadways.

No person shall park any vehicle upon a street or alley in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than ten (10) feet of the width of the roadway for free movement of vehicular traffic.

(Code 1968, § 46-123)

Sec. 45-113. Parking or standing on left side of one-way roadway.

In the event a highway includes two (2) or more separate roadways and traffic is restricted to one (1) direction upon any such roadway, no person shall stand or park a vehicle upon the left-hand side of such one-way roadway, unless signs are erected to permit such standing or parking. The traffic engineer is authorized to determine when standing or parking may be permitted upon the left-hand side of any such one-way roadway and to erect signs giving notice thereof.

(Code 1968, § 46-125)

Sec. 45-114. Cut-back curb sections for parking—Consent required to cut curb.

It shall be unlawful for any person to cut back any curb in front of any place or establishment for the purpose of providing individual parking space or parking space for the use of customers of such person without the consent of the city council.

(Code 1968, § 46-126)

Sec. 45-115. Same—Method of parking.

(a) Within authorized cut-back curb sections, parking may be at an angle to the curb, but in no event shall any portion of a parked vehicle extend more than six (6) feet into the roadway from the curb line as it would exist in the absence of such a cut-back.

(b) The traffic engineer is authorized to prohibit angle parking in any curb cut-back when, upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, it is determined that such practice is hazardous or dangerous to vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

(Code 1968, § 46-127)

Sec. 45-116. Parking prohibitions and restrictions on specific streets generally.

(a) When signs are erected giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle at any time upon any of the streets so signed.

(b) When signs are erected in each block giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle between the hours designated by such signs on any day, unless otherwise designated.

(c) When signs are erected in each block giving notice thereof, no person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle between the hours specified on such signs on any day, unless otherwise designated.

(d) When signs are erected in each block giving notice thereof, no person shall park a vehicle for longer than the specified period at any time between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. of any day, except Sundays and legal holidays.

(e) The provisions of this section prohibiting the standing or parking of a vehicle shall apply at all